



Area 4 Developmental Disabilities Board

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Visit our web page at <http://www.scdd.ca.gov/areaboard4.htm>

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1. Changes at State Council and Area Boards

On January 1, 2015, a new law ([AB 1595](#)) goes into effect that eliminates area boards on developmental disabilities, replacing them with regional advisory committees. The law mandates the membership of the regional advisory committees represent the diverse population of the region. Area board offices will be State Council Regional Offices. They will have the same location and staff, although the State Council will have authority to change the number and location of regional offices and regional advisory committees, as it deems necessary.

Funding for the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) comes from a federal government agency called the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD). AIDD had serious concerns about the State Council and the area boards on developmental disabilities. The new law, AB 1595, was passed to bring state law into compliance with federal law and resolve the federal agency's concerns.

The last meeting of the Area 4 Developmental Disabilities Board will be at 6:00 pm, Thursday December 4, 2014. Information on the location and agenda for the meeting will be presented in the next issue of the AB 4 E-News.

You can read the legislation, AB 1595, [Here](#)
Read AIDD's concerns about SCDD and Area Boards, [Here](#)

2. SCDD Funds New Employment Grant

We're excited, and hope you will be too, as this news promises to improve employment prospects for individuals with developmental disabilities in the North Bay counties!

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) - Area 4 Board has funded TransCen Inc \$20,000 to replicate an innovative and successful approach to increase employment for people with significant disabilities that braids, or combines, community-based day services with Vocational Rehabilitation-funded Supported Employment

The program will be operated through TransCen's San Francisco-based employment program, WorkLink, which will provide training and support to two service provider agencies in the North Bay. WorkLink will work closely with the service provider agencies and with NBRC and the Department of Rehabilitation.

WorkLink's flexible, hybrid approach allows support plans to be "built to order". The program's day services are focused on employability (i.e. the discovery process, exploring vocational options and building employment skills), VR services are then tapped to place job seekers using customized employment methods.

The training will also extend to aligning the service provider agencies' employment services to business needs and principles through the use of [customized employment](#) strategies to help people secure jobs suited to their strengths.

Training will also be conducted for individuals and families that will demonstrate the benefits of person-centered discovery and a 'skills vs. deficits' job search method.

The first training is targeted to service provider agencies and will be held on November 13th at NBRC.

[See the flyer for the training.](#)

3. Crisis in Dental Care

A California Healthline article from October 2, 2014 outlined a crisis facing many individuals who require anesthesia to access dental treatment.

"Fewer facilities across the state want to deliver dental care to special needs patients, largely because of concerns about reimbursement....." [Read the article.](#)

4. Access to Anesthesia or Hospital Dentistry

You may have heard about a “crisis” in the access to anesthesia or hospital dentistry resources that are available in parts of California. Please help us gather stories of children and adults with disabilities who require this specialized level of dental care.

- Do you or your child need this level of care?
- Do you have a dentist who can provide this care?
- How long have you had to wait?
- Has insurance denied this procedure?

Don't be “invisible” to those making policies – Let your voice be heard!

Stories will be shared with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and other government and private agencies working to improve access to care for those who need this specialized level of dental care.

Your Story

Name (optional):

Phone or email (optional):

County you live in:

Diagnosis (optional):

Age (optional):

Your story (add additional sheets if necessary):

Please submit stories by November 30th, 2014 to robert.phillips@scdd.ca.gov; Fax to (707) 648-4100; or mail to Area 4 Board, 236 Georgia St., Vallejo, CA 94590; or call (707) 648-4073.

Please share this with others who may be interested!

5. Let the Candidates Know What You Think

Disability Organizing Network Ramps Up the Disability Vote

***“Do your candidates know what you think?
Do they know your important issues?
Don't let Election Day pass without telling them!”***

“There are just 10 days left to talk with candidates about issues important to people with disabilities until voter go to the polls on **Election Day Tuesday, November 4, 2014**. Join the **Disability Organizing Network (DOnetwork)** in our **Social Media Blitz** for the next 10 days. In 2014 candidates, news reporters and their followers are using social media like **Facebook** and **Twitter** to communicate more than ever before”

[Read More at Disability Organizing Network](#)

6. DRC's Hotline Flyer

Disability Rights California has an Election Day Hotline Flyer with phone number and other info for voters with disabilities who may face issues trying to vote on Election Day. Their Staff Attorney, Tho Vinh Banh, sent it out and we are passing it along....

<http://www.disabilityrightsca.org/Events/ElectionDayHotline20140923.htm>

7. DRC Resource on Rep Payee Program

Disability Rights California has a New Resource for Consumers on the Social Security Administration Representative Payee Program

Read about it [Here](#)

8. Expect, Employ, Empower

The theme for this October's Disability Employment Awareness Month is “Expect, Employ, Empower”.

To access resources from the federal Office of Disability Employment Policy, click [Here](#)

9. Prepare for Emergencies Now!

[Information for People with Disabilities](#)